SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 328

By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to recognize Glen Tuckett for laudable service as both a coach and athletic director.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those coaches and athletic directors who have performed their duties with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm and, through their magnificent exploits, have brought honor to their programs; and

WHEREAS, Glen Tuckett is one such estimable community leader who successfully served with acumen and probity for seventeen years as the Director of Athletics for Brigham Young University (BYU); and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Tuckett's prosperous tenure at BYU, the football team played in seventeen post season bowl games; the basketball team participated in thirteen post season tournaments, including the NCAA and NIT; and the men's athletics program earned seventeen athletic supremacy championships in the Western Athletic Conference and won sixty-eight Western Athletic Conference championships; and

WHEREAS, Glen Tuckett's influence and maneuvering on behalf of the Cougars and the Western Athletic Conference have helped to elevate BYU to the nation's athletic elite; he has chaired and worked on NCAA and CFA committees that have been on the cutting edge of college athletics; and

WHEREAS, a devoted professional, Mr. Tuckett has been inducted into a variety of Halls of Fame, including Brigham Young University Athletic Hall of Fame, Utah Sports Hall of Fame, American Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, The National Association of College Directors of Athletics Hall of Fame, and the Utah Summer Games Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Glen Tuckett has received the Dale Rex Award, the highest athletic honor given by BYU; the Lefty Gomez Award, annually awarded to the

person in this country who has made the most significant contribution to amateur baseball on any level, especially college baseball; the General Robert R. Neyland Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes outstanding performance as a Director of Athletics; and the Homer Rice Award, given annually to the person in the NCAA who has made the most significant contribution to intercollegiate athletics; and

WHEREAS, the accomplished Mr. Tuckett is now a popular speaker at business, civic, sports, and church groups; and

WHEREAS, prior to his tenure as BYU's Director of Athletics, Mr. Tuckett served as the BYU baseball coach for seventeen years, leading his teams to numerous achievements; and

WHEREAS, his teams captured the WAC Northern Division championship in thirteen of Mr. Tuckett's seventeen years as a coach there and claimed the Conference Championship and the District 7 Championship in three of those years; two of his teams participated in the prestigious College World Series, while another team, in support of their religious beliefs, chose not to play in the College World Series as to avoid playing on a Sunday; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Glen Tuckett was named head coach of the U.S. team, which participated in the World Amateur Baseball Tournament; for only the second time in the 27-year history of that international tournament, the United States won the World Title; and

WHEREAS, three years later, he lent his exemplary talents as the President of the American Association of College Baseball Coaches; and

WHEREAS, Glen Tuckett retired from BYU in 1995, as the ninth winningest baseball coach in the NCAA; two years later, he was asked to serve as the Director of Athletics at the University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, during his eighteen months at Alabama, the Crimson Tide won the NCAA Women's Gymnastic Championship; the football team won the Outback Bowl; and the baseball team played in the College World Series in both 1996 and 1997; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Murray High School, where he was an outstanding athlete, Glen Tuckett served overseas in the United States Army for eighteen months before playing professional baseball for eight years; and

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WHEREAS, he graduated from the University of Utah in 1953, and later obtained his master's degree and a doctorate degree from BYU; he launched his coaching career at West High School in Salt Lake City, where he coached football, baseball, basketball, and golf for six years; and

WHEREAS, he then joined the Cougar staff in 1959, serving as Head Baseball Coach and, for six years, as an assistant football coach; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, Glen Tuckett is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, the former Josephine Whittaker of Stockport, England, their four daughters, and nine grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, upon Mr. Tuckett's return from Alabama, the Tucketts nobly served a full-time mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career, Glen Tuckett has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate his student-athletes to reach their fullest potential, as well as elevate the athletic programs under his direction to extraordinary new heights, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Glen Tuckett for his honorable and astute service to the youth of this country as an exemplary coach and athletic director and join with his family, friends, students, and fans in congratulating him on his many fine achievements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish him much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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